THE DRUMBEAT
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Tyler Junior College

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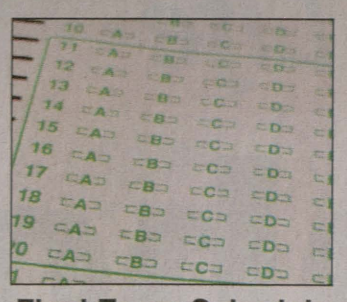
Labor of Love on Page 2



Final Exam Schedule on Page 4

Voting on Page 6

Photo by Robert Naylor

New boot policy, appeals process to take effect in spring

Celeste Gibson
News Editor

New parking regulations will be in effect Jan. 1, 2020, with the most considerable revision changing the citation appeal process for students, faculty and staff.

According to TJC parking policies, members of TJC have 10 days to pay or appeal a fine before they have a hold placed on their account, and faculty and staff will have their ID badge and parking privileges revoked. Previously, the policies for students avoiding a fine was appealing to the Student Conduct Officer, while faculty and staff reached out to an Appeals Committee, which met once a month. However, with the new policy, a committee will review faculty, staff and student appeals.

Along with appeal changes, instead of towing vehicles, the vehicles on TJC property will have a boot placed on them. According to TJC policy, vehicles will be towed if someone has four or more parking violations; parks without a permit; parks on any sidewalk, lawn or reserved areas; violates any of the traffic and parking regulations; fails to obey the verbal order of any TJC Police Department personnel, or is an abandoned vehicle.

The administrative boot fee will be $50. According to HomeGuide, the average cost of towing a vehicle can be $75-$125. Students also pay the full expense if their vehicle is towed. "The policy for booting cars is similar to the policy that is currently in place to tow a vehicle," Chief of Police Michael Seale said. "If someone's vehicle is booted, they will be required to pay all of their outstanding citations and the administrative boot fee to get the boot removed. If someone isn't able to take care of their citations and boot fee during normal business hours, they may bring a cashier's check or money order to the police department after hours."

From the beginning of the 2019 fall semester, there have been 967 citations issued and no cars towed, according to Seale.

"Citations are issued by TJC Police Officers, Public Safety Officer or Student Cadets," Seale said. "The employees will leave a carbon copy of the citation on the vehicle, typically on the windshield, that violates the parking rules and regulations."

Other differences include new classification of violations and fee schedules being in one place, renovation of driving and parking privileges on campus as well as the process for appealing such decisions. Those who have the authority to enforce the rules and regulations are also outlined in the new policy.

A formal grace period of one week at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters will be in place. The new regulations outline terms and classification of permits and IDs, and defines what is the misuse of one's permit or ID card.

"The new parking regulations were a complete rewrite of the regulations that were currently in place, so there were a lot of changes," Seale. "The goal of the new rules is to provide regulations that are clear and that are applicable to everyone."

Parking Citation Fee	Dollar Amount
Service Only	$25
Visitor's Space	$25
Parking Without a Permit	$25
Failure to Display Permit	$25
Improper Parking	$25
Occupying a Faculty Space	$25
Occupying a more than one space	$25
Parking in a Fire Lane	$25
Parking in the grass	$25
Parking in a Handicapped space	$500

Graphic by Robert Naylor

DACA pending in Supreme Court

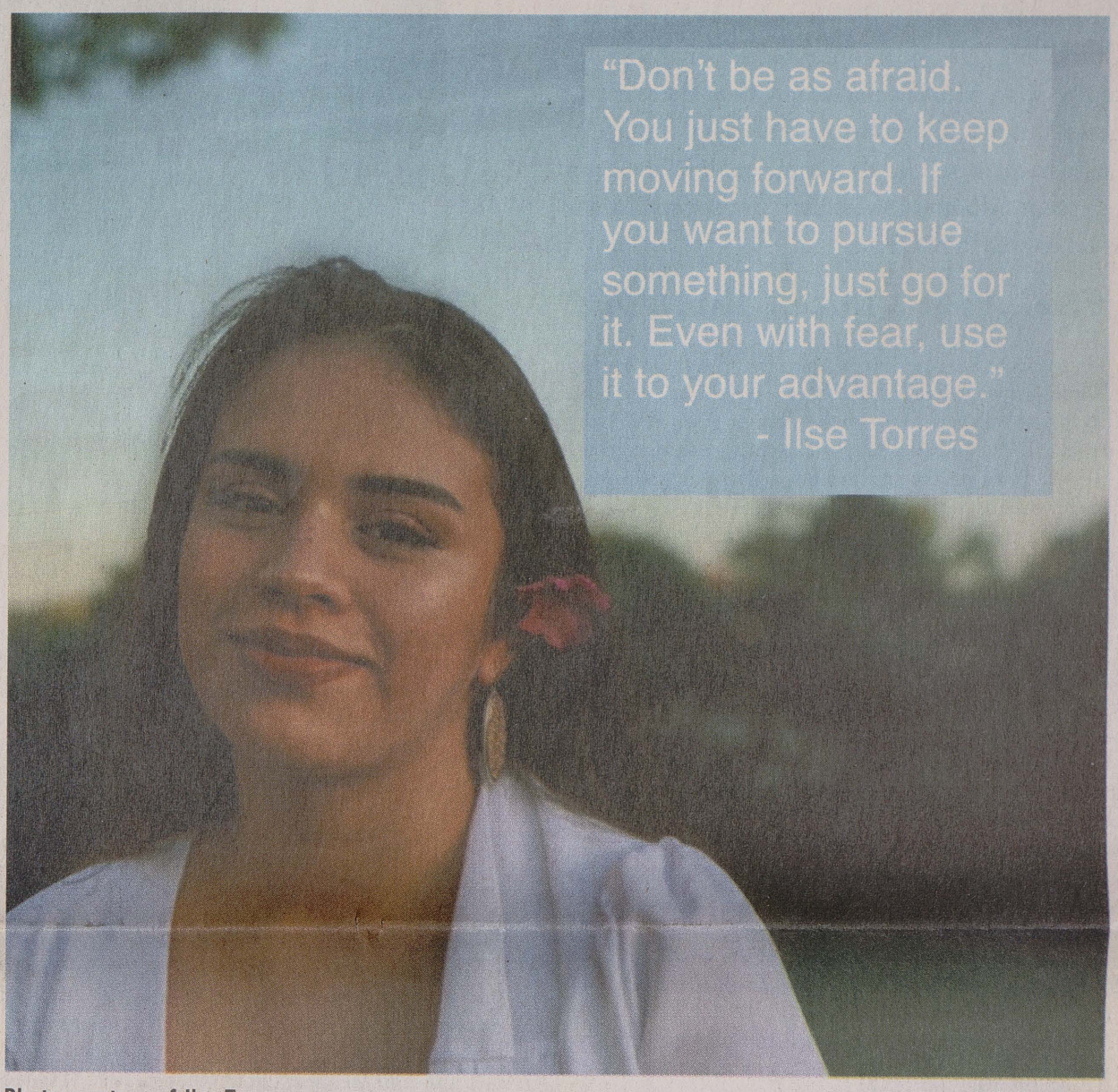


Photo courtesy of Ilse Torres
Ilse Torres is one of two in her family in the DACA program. There are approximately 124,300 DACA recipients in the state of Texas.

700,000 recipients at risk of losing resident status

Robert Naylor
Editor-in-Chief

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, better known as DACA, is currently undergoing a judgment process in the Supreme Court. The decision will determine the residential status for more than 700,000 DACA recipients, per the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

According to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration services, a 2016 Census estimates Texas ranking as the second highest state in America behind California in terms of DACA population. At the time 124,300 DACA recipients were approved in the state.

"I got enrolled when I was 15," said Ilse Torres, multimedia and marketing production student at TJC. "My mom brought me to meet a lawyer that guided me through the process. I remember driving all the way to Dallas to fill out paperwork, do fingerprinting, pretty much to become fully documented. After that you coordinate with the social security offices, who provide you with a personal social security number."

The process is similar to how immigration is pursued in America, except in this case the reality of a DACA recipient's citizenship status rests in the balance of a political battle. According to President Donald Trump, "President Obama said he had no legal right to sign the [DACA] order, but would anyway." The argument being that Obama's signing of DACA has no legal standing according to immigration law in America.

This is where the controversy surrounding DACA gets interesting. The Trump administration has already attempted to negotiate the DACA program to acquire wall funding from leading Democrats, but this has been consistently shot down. If the Trump administration is willing to negotiate DACA terms, is the order truly a violation of the law, or rather a harsh interpretation of the law? What does DACA truly mean?

"To me it just means to be progressive," Torres said. "Keep on striving for everything you want in life. I don't want to live in fear that I'm going to get taken away, so I try not to focus on the status of DACA. I just check in on it at times."

Torres is the second in her family to enroll into the DACA program and because of her enrollment she is able to pursue higher education. DACA recipients essentially have the same freedoms to pursue education as any American citizen.

In the past, Republicans have dealt with other types of immigration policies similar to DACA, and if compared to the Reagan administration, the current situation is practically identical. On Nov. 6, 1986, President Ronald Reagan signed the Immigration Reform and Control Act, known as IRCA.

IRCA had two stipulations. It altered U.S. immigration law making it illegal to knowingly hire immigrants who entered the country illegally, and established financial penalties for companies that employed immigrants who came to the country illegally. The second stipulation draws similarities to DACA. All immigrants who arrived in the country illegally prior to Jan. 1, 1982, were given permanent citizenship.

DACA is essentially a temporary version to IRCA. While Obama created an executive order to push through immigration policy, Reagan signed a congressional act. Currently, the country awaits the ruling of the Supreme Court regarding the status of Obama's executive order.

Fear may be the consuming emotion of many DACA recipients, but Torres believes that this can be used as a tool to propel her forwards.

"Don't be as afraid. You just have to keep moving forward. If you want to pursue something, just go for it," Torres said. "Even with fear, use it to your advantage."

A Labor of Love

Student exposes creative film process

By McKenna Mirsky
Contributing Writer

Photo by McKenna Mirsky
Gerardo Morales Jr. wrote, filmed and edited his own award-winning short film. Morales is also the cameraman for The DrumBeat.

Gerardo Morales Jr. adjusts the camera on his tripod, making sure it's in place. He directs his actor to stand in place and reminds him of the cues they practiced. Morales returns to the camera and readjusts the angle to assure it has a close up of the actor. The scene has to be perfect. Everything must be in order before anything can be shot. Morales makes any final altercations needed to his camera before recording. Finally, he raises his arm and holds out his hand so the actor can see it. Morales lowers each finger on his hand as he counts in his head:

Five...Four...Three...Two...One!

He points at the actor, cueing him that the scene has begun.

Through the view of the audience, everything is pitch black. The only sounds heard can be the slow creaking of a door opening. The actor raises his hand, tightly grasping a pistol.

Several shots are fired as the perspective switches from facing the front of the gun to the side of it.

Shots stop firing from the gun. There's a brief moment of silence before a child meekly cries for their mother. The next scene cuts to a man abruptly waking up in bed from the nightmare.

The short film "Me," which was created, directed and edited by Morales, focuses on the story of a man whose family was killed by a gunman with the main character recalling the horrible event.

The film was entered in the TJC Student Film Contest in the spring 2018 and won first place. "Me" also won first place in video production for the Texas Community College Journalism Association competition in 2018.

Although acclaimed awards can be an outstanding achievement for a film, the true amazement is the process of how a film is produced.

Morales went into great detail about the process of making the film. The first part he developed was the tone and emotions the film would convey.

"I wanted to make something sad and emotional, that was my primary goal," Morales said.

He then explained the details of the writing process, which involved outlining the story, creating the dialogue for the actor and deciding the camera placements for each scene.

Next, Morales put the script into action by guiding the actors on how to emote and using various camera angles and movements for each scene. Lastly, came the post-production process, which involved editing, implementing computer generated images, finding appropriate background music for certain settings and deciding which scenes needed to be cut.

Morales said he only had three days to compress the film to its necessary length and submit it before the deadline.

"I spent almost all night for three days straight with a very small amount of sleep," Morales said. "But after editing everything together, finding the right music and all that, I export[ed] the video out and submit[ed] it to the film festival. I'm glad it came out great."

Morales describes that working on the short film was the first time he ever tackled a project like this. Any previous creative projects Morales did all the work himself and was used to being a one-man-team. However, this short film introduced him to a skill most directors face in the film industry: collaboration.

"This is really my idea that I wanted to bring to life, and I'm the type of person that can only trust himself," Morales said. "I'm not the best at delegating tasks, so I tend to do everything."

In the beginning, one of Morales' greatest struggles with the short film was guiding the actor how to emote through each scene. It was a new task he had never encountered before. He desired to talk with the actor and be familiar with his background before shooting the film to have a better relationship. Morales believes a film can't have "an authentic performance without knowing the actor first." Morales considers this connection to improve the relationship between the director and the actor. If the director is willing to know the performer and be interested in their background, the more determined the actor will be to give their best performance. This relationship made it easier for Morales to get his actor in the mindset of his character.

"After talking to him and after having that connection with him I directed him like, 'Hey can you stand here?' [or] like 'Hey, this is the mindset of a father who feels sad after what happened. Could you say these words in that mindset?'"

Another conflict Morales faced was the writing process. Morales explains how he lacks experience in creative writing and that it's one of his greatest weaknesses when it comes to filmmaking.

"I've noticed in the past two or three years that I haven't felt as creative as I once was," Morales said. "I felt drained really, like I don't want to spend time thinking about this, I'd rather just do. When it comes to editing a video or you know setting up a production, it's more doing everything in real time."

Morales feels great pressure when it comes to creating a story. He questions if the story will work with the audience and if they'll appreciate it.

"It's really just hard on me personally because I'm not a creative person," Morales said. "They say there's type As and the Bs, and I am a type A. I like everything organized [and] structured. I like having a path."

Morales is frustrated having to combat his structural side with his creative side. He feels it prevents him form reaching his true creative potential and brings more stress than necessary.

"I just don't feel free; I don't feel creative," Morales said. "I feel like if I don't have a path or guideline for something it's just not going to work, and it just adds more stress and anxiety to it. It shouldn't be, it should be fun."

Coming up with a creative story can be a difficult task for many film directors. However, according to elementsofcinema.com, one of the best ways for directors to improve their writing is to comprehend the basics of storytelling. One of the suggested methods is to write a screenplay as often as possible. Everyone faces challenges in the beginning, but the more practice put into it, the more the person will improve. The article also claims a great screenwriter has more potential to become a director, rather than someone who has no knowledge or background for storytelling.

Although Morales has encountered many obstacles throughout the filming process, one of his favorite aspects is cinematography and editing. He explains he has "an eye for composition when it comes to filming." However, even though video editing is Morales' greatest strength, he also faces his ambition that goes along with it.

"After driving the idea and writing the script and shooting everything, [and] filming everything comes the post-production side, which is something I excel at, but I tend to be a little ambitious," Morales said.

"My films and art pieces are like paintings to me." -Morales

Morales creates extravagant concepts for how he desires the production of his film to appear. However, other life obstacles can interfere with his editing process. He also has high expectations for his post-production process and wants to achieve more than what can be done in a specific time frame.

"You have these grand [and] great ideas in your head and then you have time constraints and other constraints," Morales said. "Just dealing with your ambition like 'Is there a way to convey the same thing with less amount of effort?' I have a background in editing and post-production. I like to make scenes more grand and just eye grabbing and more attractive, but that usually involves a lot more work, so just toning it down, that's something I learned."

Morales had various responsibilities for his short film, such as being the editor, cinematographer and director. However, he also had help from his friend and assistant director of the film Andrew Lent. Lent describes the passion Morales had for making the film.

"It's something that he seemed to really enjoy," Lent said. "Even after it, we would talk about other films that we could both work on and just like little things like that. He's always been really into that stuff."

Lent first met Morales his freshmen year at TJC when taking multimedia marketing and production courses. He said Morales appeared to be very shy and reserved when they met.

Although, when Morales opened up, Lent saw his potential for editing and filmmaking, claiming Morales's projects "just blew everybody else's stuff out of the water."

Lent considers Morales to be very talented and claims him to be "the next Steven Spielberg." Although, rather than moving to Hollywood, Lent sees Morales more invested in producing independent films, which are short films or movies produced outside of large entertainment industries.

"I know he likes doing indie stuff. I don't think he would want to go to Hollywood," Lent said. "I think he just likes doing small indie projects. I definitely think he's got a lot of potential for indie stuff, and I know there's a market for indie stuff."

Morales encountered various difficulties while creating his film; however, he believed the whole process was worth it due to the end product. What he appreciates most from filmmaking is for him and the audience to enjoy his finished piece.

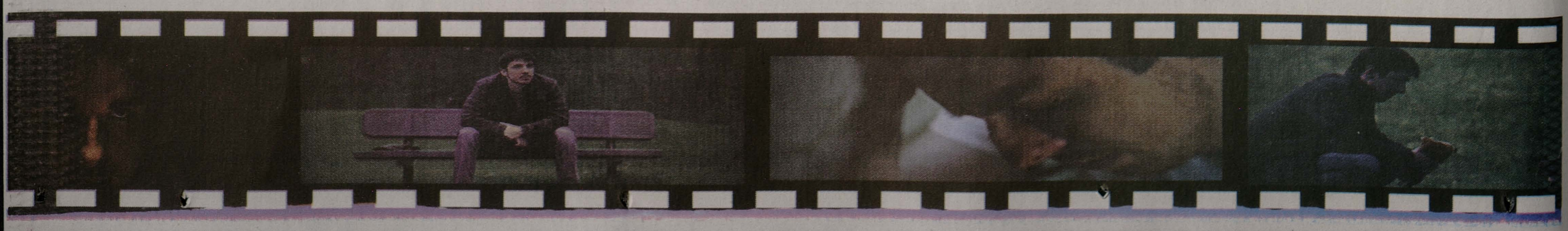
"After you have this masterpiece you spent hours and days and maybe even weeks working on and just to have it there in its full glory and to have people admire it is just something else," Morales said. "It's not something you can experience every day. My films and art pieces are like paintings to me. I've enjoyed using my own two hands to physically create what's on my mind. After all the hard work was finished, I liked to frame my masterpiece and observe the results of my hard work."

Morales enjoys all his hard work that he puts into his projects and admires the time and effort that goes into each one. He also enjoys how others view his projects.

"It's even better when others walk by and become captivated and enthralled by the creation they see in front of them, wondering how is someone capable of creating such a masterpiece?" Morales said. "It makes me feel accomplished and valued as if the amount of time I spent learning the craft was worth it. It just lets me know like hey the amount of time you spent learning your craft was well worth it because you've made something unique that people love and admire."

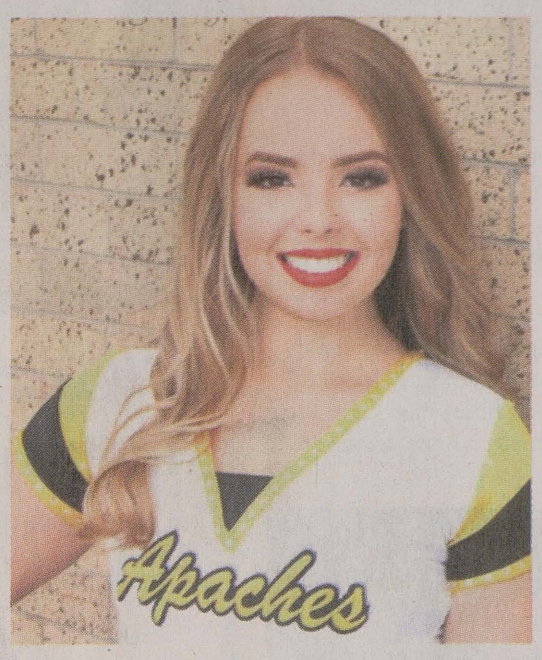
After Morales' years and experience of producing films, one of the main things he advises other aspiring filmmakers is to never give up.

"It can be stressful. I've even heard that working in the industry can be rough on you, but just don't give up," Morales said. "People will love your work and you'll just feel a lot more happy. You're not in a position that many people are in. You are talented and hardworking and the work you do could change lives."



High Kicking it with the Apache Belles

Stories by Zhaekyra White
Sports Editor



Apache Belles dance their way through the fall season

Madi Murphy
Dance Captain

Madi Murphy attended Robert E. Lee High School where she was an officer for the drill team during her senior year, and she accomplished being the first junior to make a social position for being the motivational leader. She is now one of the dance captains for the Apache Belles this year as well as the chaplain for the team. Murphy talks about what her experience has been like being part of the Apache Belles.

"My experience has been absolutely amazing. This organization brings a bunch of dancers with the same goal and the same love together," Murphy said. "It just brings all these different people together to accomplish something as a team."

She says the reason she came to TJC was to be part of this legacy that has changed so many lives. Murphy's favorite thing about the Apache Belles is the traditions and the sisterhood. The "Rim Walk," which is when the Belles walk around the concourse at the football stadium using their skirts to connect the line, has been something every Belle has done and is Murphy's favorite tradition. She loves the fact that it represents how close of a bond the women have, and the "Belle Gold" or alumni walks with them during homecoming.

Murphy says her greatest challenge has to be pushing herself to a point that she wants to give up, but once she's there she realizes how strong she has become as a person and a dancer and why it's all worth it.

Once graduating from TJC she wants to attend a university and become an elementary or middle school teacher. She plans on getting a master's degree in counseling to eventually work her way into having her own business in counseling.

Autumn Cox
Head Dance Captain

Autumn Cox is the head dance captain of the TJC Apache Belles this year. She chose to attend TJC so she could be part of the Apache Belles. Once she visited the campus, she fell in love and immediately knew she had to be here.

Cox talks about how much she learned from being in this organization and how her experience has been amazing overall.

"I've learned so many things about myself and how to conduct myself in the real world," Cox said. "I know that everything I've learned in Belles, I can carry with me for the rest of my life."

Cox has been a dancer for 14 years and was part of the drill team at her high school in Navasota, Texas. She was an officer for three years and captain during her senior year when her team accomplished being first overall dance competition winners. She won a runner-up solo award her junior year, as well as a first-place solo award her sophomore year. She was also recently awarded a legacy scholarship award for being the head dance captain.

Although Cox is a great dancer, she still has trouble with things like perseverance. She says those challenges only help her get stronger as a person, physically and mentally.

She also mentions what she likes most about being an Apache Belle.

"The sisterhood that we developed; I probably would've never met or talked to any of the girls that I consider the greatest friends I have," Cox said.

After graduating from TJC, she wants to attend Texas A&M University where she plans on getting into the biology department to study viruses and vaccines.

Misty Jones
Freshman

Misty Jones is a freshman Apache Belle at TJC. She is from Tyler, where she began dancing 16 years ago. She was an officer for the drill team at Robert E. Lee High School. She decided attending TJC would be best because of advice she had been given and because of all the great things she has heard about the dance team.

Jones is a third generation Apache Belle in her family along with her two sisters who followed in their mother and grandmother's footsteps.

She talks about how different her experience has been with the Belles compared to being in high school drill team.

"It's a completely different type of drill team. It's been hard, but it's been good and has made me grow as a dancer and a person," Jones said. "From all the things we've done, it has opened my eyes to newer things."

In fact, her favorite thing about being an Apache Belle is they get to do much more as dancers than in high school. She says there is more variety in what they are allowed to do in their dances now.

Jones says being a freshman can be challenging at times. There are lots of special freshmen rules that they have to abide by in order to move their way up. Some of those include not being able to talk during practice, which she says is one of the hardest things to do especially when there's questions to be asked.

After graduating from TJC, Jones wants to attend the University of Texas at Tyler or a cosmetology school so she can get her degree in cosmetology and purse a career in that field.

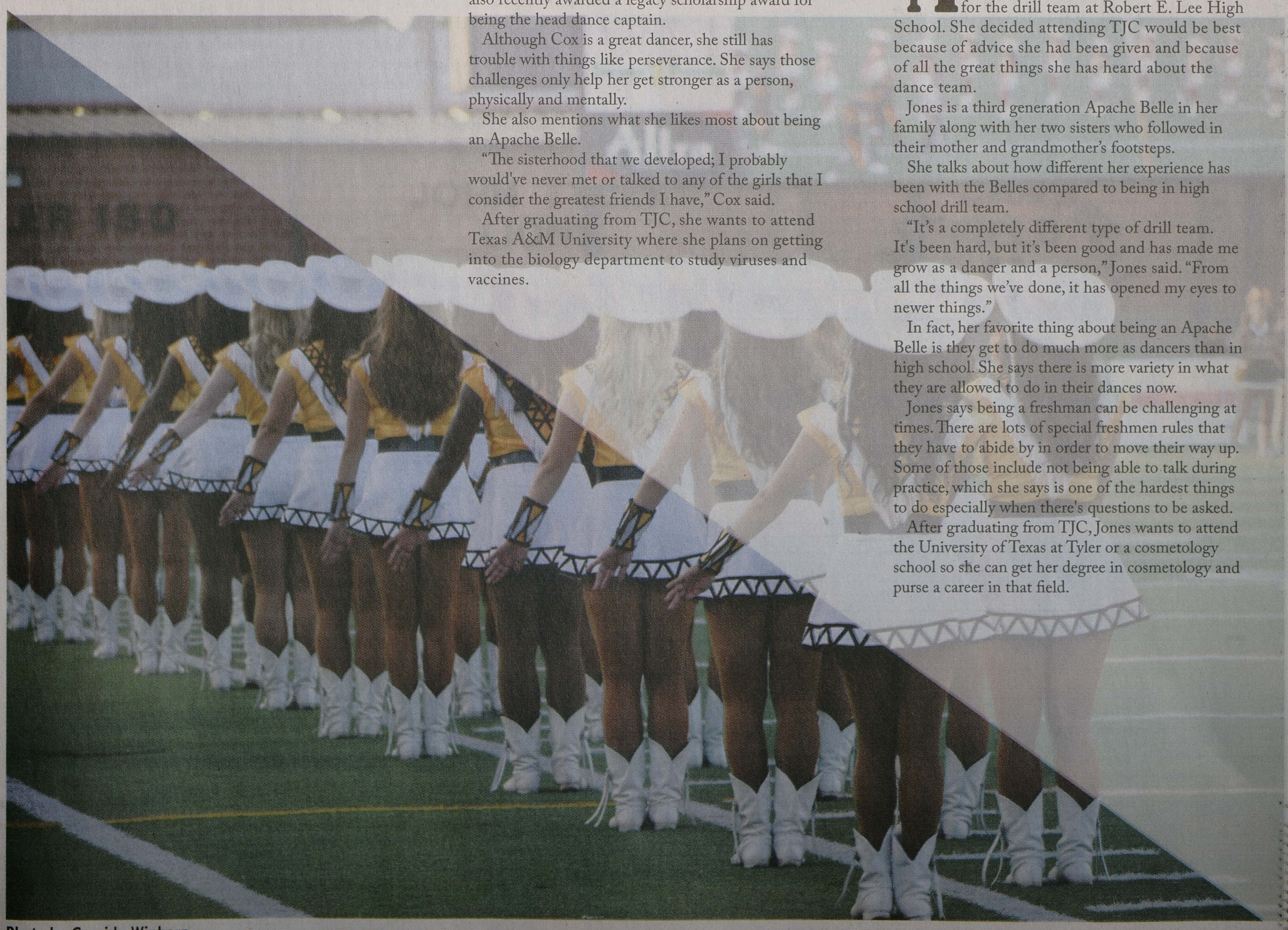


Photo by Cassidy Winborn

Approaching graduation dates to remember

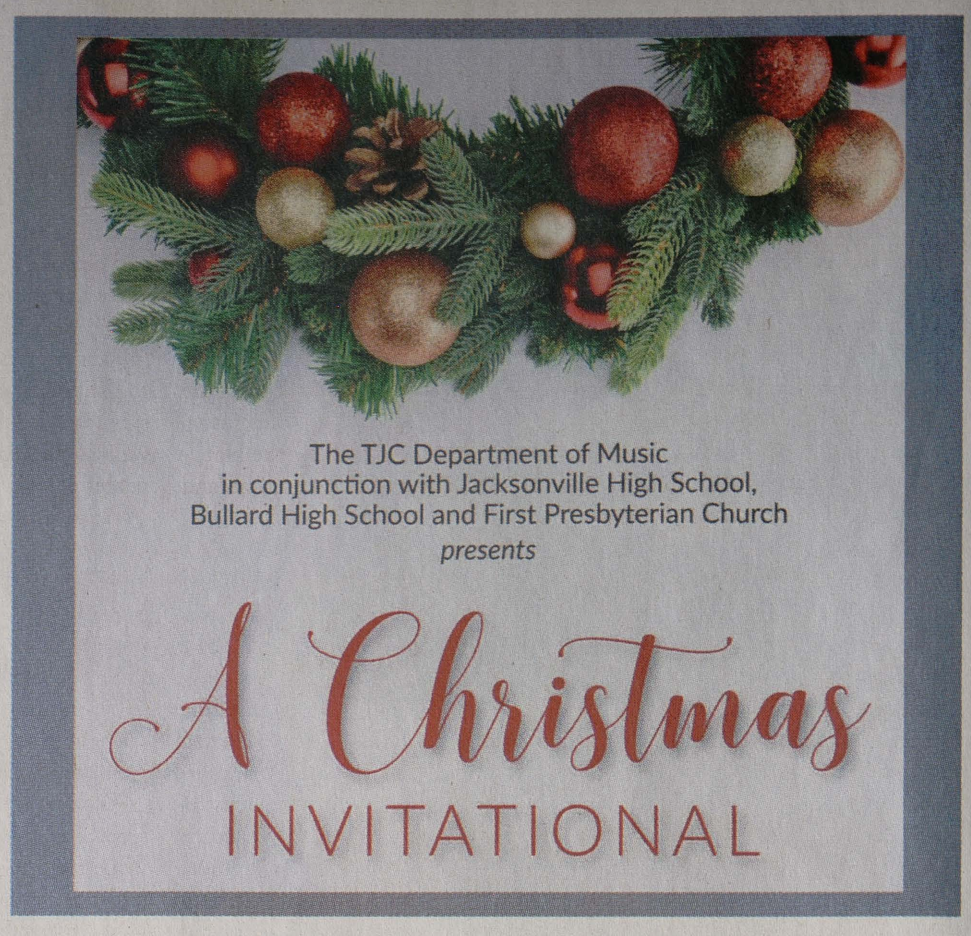
By Celeste Gibson
News Editor

Graduation is the best of times, the worst of times. From bittersweet goodbyes with some of one's closest friends to the omnipresent senioritis that looms over every student in their last semester, here are four important dates students need to remember as they prepare to leave TJC.

- The 2019 Winter Graduation will be held at 10 a.m. Dec. 13 for the School of Humanities, Communications and Fine Arts, and the School of Engineering, Mathematics and Sciences. The graduation for the School of Nursing and Health Sciences and the School of Professional and Technical Programs will be held at 1 p.m. that same day.
- Cap and gowns should be picked up no later than Dec. 3 and can be picked up at the Registrar's Office.
- The last day to apply for a diploma is Dec. 11, and diplomas will be mailed a week after graduation.
- According to the TJC website, the requirements for graduating are confirming one's graduation, completing the required credit hours with an average grade of at least "C" (2.0 cumulative GPA). Also, at least 25% of one's semester credit hours must have been earned at TJC and satisfy all Texas Success Initiative requirements, if one's degree or certificate requires it.

Final Exam Schedule

Thursday, Dec. 5	
Class Time	**Final Time**
7 a.m., TR	7-8:50 a.m.
10 a.m., TR	10-11:50 a.m.
1 p.m., TR	1-2:50 p.m.
4 p.m., TR	3:15-5:05 pm
5:30 p.m., R only & TR	5:30-7:20 p.m.
7 p.m., R only	7-9:20 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 6	
7 a.m., FS & 7 a.m. F only	7-8:50 a.m.
10 a.m., FS & 7 a.m. F only	10-11:50 a.m.
1 p.m., FS & 2 p.m. F only	1-2:50 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 7	
7 a.m., S only	7-8:50 a.m.
8:30 a.m., FS & 8:30 a.m. F only	8:30-10:20 a.m.
10 a.m., S only	10-11:50 a.m.
11:30 a.m. FS & 11:30 a.m. F only	11:30 a.m.-1:20 p.m.
2:30 p.m., FS & 2 p.m. S only	2:30-4:20 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 9	
7 a.m. MW	7-8:50 a.m.
10 a.m. MW	10-11:50 a.m.
1 p.m. MW	1-2:50 p.m.
4 p.m. MW	3:15-5:05 p.m.
5:30 p.m., M only & MW	5:30-7:20 p.m.
7 p.m., M only	7-9:20 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 10	
8:30 a.m., TR	8:30-10:20 a.m.
11:30 a.m., TR	11:30-1:20 p.m.
2:30 p.m., TR	2:30-4:20 p.m.
5:30 p.m., T only	5:30-7:20 p.m.
7 p.m., T only & 7 p.m., TR	7-9:20 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 11	
8:30 a.m., MW	8:30-10:20 a.m.
11:30 a.m., MW	11:30 a.m.-1:20 p.m.
2:30 p.m., MW	2:30-4:20 p.m.
5:30 p.m., W only	5:30-7:20 p.m.
7 p.m., W only & 7 p.m. MW	7-9:20 p.m.



TJC Choir set to host 'A Christmas Invitational' Dec. 3 off campus

By Michael Bald
Entertainment Editor

The Tyler Junior College choir will be hosting a Christmas-themed performance called, "A Christmas Invitational," with two local high schools and the First Presbyterian Church. They will perform at 7 p.m. Dec. 3 at the First Presbyterian Church. The street address is 230 W. Rusk St. Tyler, TX.

The choir hopes to evoke feelings associated with the holiday spirit and relaxation in their music selection. "We would like to spread a message of love and acceptance through out music," said Erin Maharrey, a TJC student who's majoring in music and is participating in the program. "We also want our audience to enjoy the evening and take a break."

About 19 to 20 people are estimated to be performing for the show according to Maharrey. She added "The chamber is performing a song by Craig Hella Johnson called 'Lo How a Rose' and a solo performance."

Maharrey always had a passion for singing ever since she was a little girl. "Music is my whole life," Maharrey said. "When I was 7 or 8 I wanted to be a singing or acting scientist, so music has always been a part of my life."

The TJC choir plans to perform outside of campus and team up with the Jacksonville and Bullard High School choir. Maharrey hopes it will inspire them to join the choir in college.

"Hopefully what we'll gain is being able to be a part of the community and people who are in high school. Hopefully they would like to join our choir."

Admission is free to students and community members.

TJC PD to host toy drive

By Anna Grace Drewett
Staff Writer

The Tyler Junior College Police Department is hosting a toy drive through Marine Toys for Tots and will be collecting donations until Dec. 13.

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is a national organization in the United States that works to "help bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate children," according to their website.

New, unwrapped toys can be dropped off at the TJC Police Department on Baxter Avenue or at the substation in the Rogers Student Center.

In addition to dropping toys off at the police station, the home basketball game on Dec. 4 will be designated as a toy drive game. The TJC Apaches will face Lee College at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 4 in in the Wagstaff Gymnasium. Michael Seale, TJC police chief, said "visitors who bring a toy will get into the game for free, and this will be a time for members of the campus community to drop off a toy at another location."

Seale also said this is the department's second year partnering with Toys for Tots, and he plans on continuing this tradition in the years to come.

Ta'kira Taylor, a staff technician with the campus police, said the toy drive is "a cool way to give back to people who don't have as much as others."

Once the toy drive is over, Toys for Tots will pick up the toys and they will be distributed to the children in Smith County.

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international game developers association academic chapter

Promoting international reach and networking for the game industry. We also host weekly gaming events for all TJC Students!

Contact: Caroline Dougherty
cdou@tjc.edu

Review: 'Doctor Sleep' isn't 'The Shining' but it's still great

By Michael Bald
Entertainment Editor

"Doctor Sleep" is the sequel to the 1980 movie "The Shining" where it is now present day and Danny Torrance, played by Ewan McGregor, is still trying to cope with the events of his childhood that took place in the Overlook Hotel. Meanwhile, a group of people who hunt and kill people who "shine" are after Abra Stone, a little girl with that ability. Once Danny Torrance hears news of this, he must help protect Abra from these people as well as confront his own past demons.

Knowing the massive horror film icon that is "The Shining," I never thought a movie that's a direct sequel to it could ever be possible. How could one continue that story? How could one make a sequel if the original director, Stanley Kubrick, passed away? How could it ever live up to its predecessor?

After watching it, one must understand this isn't on the same level of craft as "The Shining" and it isn't made by Kubrick, but if one can accept those facts, they are in for a real treat. "Doctor Sleep" is the best horror film and one of the best films of the year.

Right off the bat, all of the performances are fantastic. Ewan McGregor is excellent as usual and nails the aspects of a person who has been through traumatic events. However, the standouts of the film are Kyliegh Curran, who plays the little girl, Abra, and Rebecca Ferguson, who plays the villain, Rose the Hat.

Curran has a lot of screen time, and she's able to sell every scene she's in. From the terrifying to the mellow scenes, she's fantastic. Ferguson plays the leader of the group of villains that kills people who "shine." She was despicable. She was seductively menacing and after a scene during the beginning of the middle act, I hated her so much (in a good way.)

Her character is an awful person but what makes a good villain is you understand their motivation. Combined with that and an excellent performance by Ferguson, the film has given us one of the most memorable movie villains in recent years.

Mike Flanagan also had a lot of pressure on him as a director. Stephen King was infamously known to have hated the adaptation of his book, "The Shining," by Kubrick. However, Kubrick's film is regarded by many to be a masterpiece. So going into this, Flanagan had to please Kubrick fans as well as be faithful to King's work, and he does this very well.

He has crafted an excellent looking movie with his own style, as well as making it feel it could be a sequel to Kubrick's film. The way certain shots and sequences are helmed, as well as the aspect ratio, help set a peaceful look but nightmarish tone throughout the film.

However, people who feel indifferent toward Kubrick's film will probably say "Doctor Sleep" relies too much on fan service. While at times it could feel they are relying on "The Shining's" imagery it's few and far between and it doesn't come into fruition until the third act.

As far as the negatives, the first act seemed to meander a bit; it took it a while for it to get in focus. Once you understand the characters and their issues, they take off with the plot and are very suspenseful.

This film is a nice breath of fresh air in a sense. So many films today rely on quick and cheap thrills that don't require much patience. This movie earns every moment of suspense and heart, it will go down as one of the best horror sequels ever made.

Graphic by Michael Bald

Review: Original tone of 'Rick and Morty' revamped in new season

By Michael Bald
Entertainment Editor

After two and a half years of anticipation, the show "Rick and Morty" swings back into action with its season four debut. The story revolves around the events of last season's end. Beth allowed Jerry back into their lives and Rick lost all dominance over the Smith family household, including Morty. Rick and Morty go on an adventure to find "death crystals," which are minerals that can detect alternate ways one can die. From there, shenanigans and over-the-top situations ensue.

Did the premiere live up to the long wait? In short: Yes, yes it did.

The first episode of season four, "Edge of Tomorty: Rick Die Rickpeat," lives up to everything fans could have come to expect from the creators Justin Roiland and Dan Harmon. Not only has the animation improved from last season, but also the story feels like an earlier version of the show's adventures. With a more humorous tone, rather than season three's overarching tone of darkness.

It's not a Rick and Morty episode without its fair share of science fiction and pop-culture references. The title of the episode is a play on the movie "Edge of Tomorrow: Live Die Repeat." This not only works as a reference to the movie, but they also somewhat use the plot of the movie. It never comes across as ripping it off though, because the show always brings something new to the table to make it feel as if it is its own thing.

Near the end of the episode, there are some heavy winks toward the cult classic anime "Akira," since one of the characters has superpowers and begins to morph into a giant lovecraftian-like-monster.

Graphic by Cecilia Kohl

Morty's character arch is great, as well. It is very interesting to see his transformation once he gets the death stones and sees alternate versions of his death. He begins to make choices that alter his path in life so he can end up with his high school crush, Jessica, while in the process becoming a robotic maniac that wracks havoc back on Earth. By the end, he realizes sometimes people just have to go with the flow of life, which was nice to see for his character. For so long Morty's been uptight about how Rick has been the cause of all his problems only to find out he's the master of his own fate.

The episode, of course, wasn't devoid of any humor. The best moments of this episode, that I won't spoil, is when Rick has to spawn in alternate dimensions to try and get back to his home dimension of Earth C-137. Here, the writers created unique alternate realities Rick visits, such as a dimension where humans evolved from shrimp and set up a Nazi-like dictatorship. This, as random as it sounds, doesn't even begin to explain the hilarious absurdity the episode brings.

The show, in virtually all of its episodes, is always bringing up thought-provoking questions about life and our existence as a whole. With deep philosophical questions mixed with the zany and nihilistic humor, it makes "Rick and Morty" one of the most influential and unique shows of the past decade.

Puzzle Theme: Thanksgiving

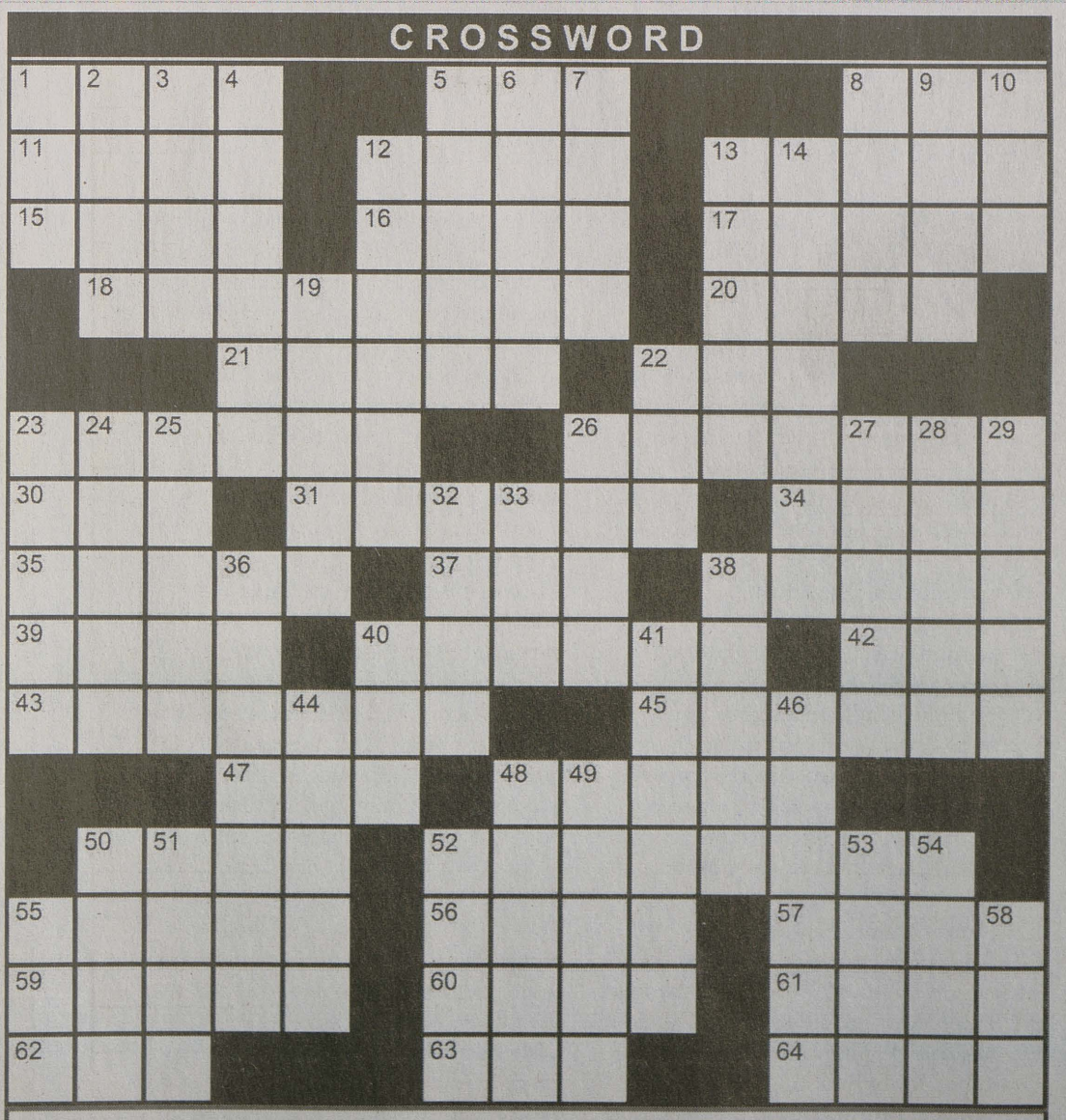
ACROSS

1. Slick grp.?
5. Mountain basin
8. Bygone bird of New Zealand
11. Relating to armpit
12. Pestilence pest
13. End a mission
15. Ancient Greece assembly site, pl.
16. What little kittens did with their mittens
17. *Thanksgiving Cranberry concoction
18. *Site of the "First Thanksgiving"
20. "Guilty," e.g.
21. Kiln, pl.
22. ____ Aviv
23. *Give what?
26. Strangling tool
30. Jul. follower
31. Pupil protector
34. Loads from lodes
35. Shows off
37. Part of human cage
38. Source of indigo dye, pl.
39. Laughing on the inside
40. Truly
42. Highest or lowest card
43. Nemo's home plant
45. *U.S. President's magnanimous gesture
47. Say "no"
48. Plural of carpus
50. Tom Jones's "____ a Lady"
52. *First settlers
55. ____ con Carne or ____ Verde
56. Fe
57. Off-color
59. Popular jeans brand
60. Attention-getting sound
61. Peter, Paul and Mary, e.g.
62. Elvis' "____ Now or Never"
63. ____ someone off
64. Do like goo

DOWN

1. Lout
2. Alka-Seltzer sound
3. James ____ Jones
4. Colored wax stick
5. VIP's influence
6. Compass point, pl.
7. The Count's favorite subject
8. Wry face
9. Black and white mammal
10. *What Thanksgiving celebrant did?
12. Excessively showy, slang
13. Turkish monetary unit
14. *Macy's parade flyer
19. "Haste ____ waste"
22. Little bit
23. ____ PeriÛdica
24. Connected to Lake Michigan
25. September stone
26. Hurtful remark
27. Synonym to #61 Across
28. Telephone company
29. City in Germany
32. Marine eagle
33. Jack-in-the-box part
36. *First Thanksgiving parade (Philadelphia) sponsor
38. What Darwin says we do
40. "No room in the ____ for the travelers weary..."
41. Print from a smartphone
44. Desert mirage
46. ____ Bridge in Venice
48. The ____ of the Bambino
49. What phoenix did
50. Bolted
51. Hurries
52. Hearts and diamonds
53. Claudius' heir and successor
54. British slang for swindle
55. Computer-generated imagery, acr.
58. Anonymous John

CROSSWORD



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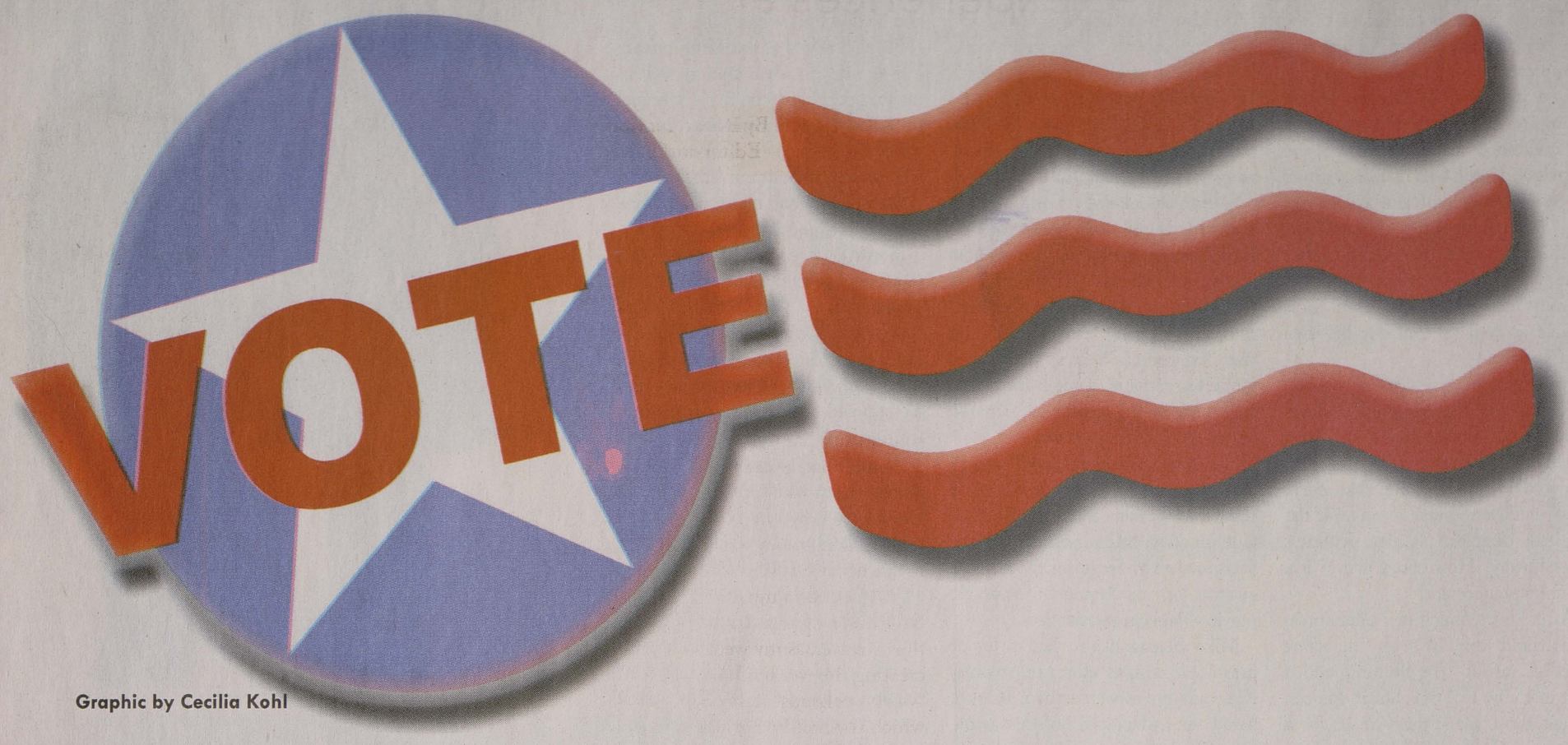

Graphic by Cecilia Kohl

America's voter turnout has been poor recently

Staff Editorial

Democracy is a privilege. People of all nationalities have fought and protested for their right to vote and it should not be taken lightly. America will not be great again if democracy fails, because as Marv DeBoy said "the rest of us are depending on you."

The year 2020 is more than a time to celebrate what the nation has done and overcome the last 100 years. It is an election year for a new president and vice president of the United States, or a re-election of President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence.

Rewind to the 1789, where only white, male property owners, who made up only 6% of the population, were eligible to vote. With the Fifteenth Amendment, the right to vote was extended to former male slaves in 1870.

However, women did not get their right to vote until the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920. Next year will mark 100 years since this amendment made history.

There were more Americans who would get their right to vote, and Congress passed a law allowing American Indians to vote in 1924.

Susan B. Anthony said, "It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens; but we the whole people, who formed the union." Her words echo through time and still stand true today.

To have a person who represents shared goals and visions in a position of power is a mighty thing. No one likes taxation without representation. Americans want a say in where their taxes are going and how the country will be run.

In today's world, information is a click away on the internet, and websites are filled with more information on who to vote for and what issues the country is dealing with.

There are more opportunities for voices to be heard and ideas to spread that can help or hurt the country. Youth of today can be better educated than those in the past. To have one's voice heard, one needs to register to vote and follow through by voting on election days.

According to Followmyvote.com, "America's voter turnout has been poor recently. So poor that only 36.3% of eligible voters turned out to cast votes in the 2014 midterm election. This was a low point for the U.S. because there hasn't been a turnout this low since 1942, a total of 72 years."

The voice of the people is more than just elders in this country. In fact, in the 2016 presidential election "…only 19% of people aged 18-29 cast their ballot in the presidential election; at 49%, 45-64-year-olds accounted for the largest electorate last year," as stated in thebestcolleges.org.

At the age of 18 one can register to vote in small government and large national government issues. Vote.org states, "it takes 30 seconds to check" if one is registered and that can be done at vote.org.

More individuals have the ability today to register to vote and to cast their ballot. With the quickness of the internet and the ability to check so quickly to see if one is registered, why not do the American thing and register and vote?

It only takes a moment to make a big difference for your country. Our brothers and sisters of the past have paved the way for us to not sit by and let others speak for us.

Register to vote at:

sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/reqvr.shtml

To register in Spanish, visit:

sos.state.tx.us/elections/voter/reqvrspanish.shtml

Column: Impeachment hearings causing unrest, reflection on morality

By Cecilia Kohl
Managing Editor

The impeachment hearings have become important to me because I want to make an educated choice on the candidate I vote for in the November 2020 election.

While following the hearings, I've realized there is so much information that the common person, like you and I, will have some trouble keeping straight because we have homework, life and jobs to do.

One thing that has been bothering me is the GOP is not asking the right people questions. Like why haven't they talked to President Trump's attorney Rudy Giuliani? Why hasn't he been questioned in front of the committee? His name keeps coming up in the hearings, and he is not on the stand.

Back in July of this year, there was call between the President Trump and president of Ukraine, which to some officials sounded like President Trump was abusing his position of power by asking the president of Ukraine to investigate Joe Biden and the company he had a chair in. The notion was it was politically charged and Ukraine would not get the money they needed to fight their war against Russia.

If this was a perfect call like President Trump says, then Giuliani should get up in front of everybody and explain we all misunderstood the call and it really was the most perfect call ever. Like really, I thought only Jesus makes the most perfect calls ever?

They also keep trying to call out the whistle blower it seems like, and how is that right? The whistle blower law protects the whistle blower, hello GOP, stop trying to out them. A whistle blower came up and voiced that the president could be using his position to get things done for his gain. You don't attack the person who calls 911, you go get the one who committed the crime.

When hearing about the phone call President Trump made to Ukraine it sounded improper and wrong. Why would anyone withhold money from another country that needs it to defend itself from an opposing country?

Ukraine is caught in the middle of Europe and Russia, so Ukraine is an important place for democracy. It can grow to be a solid line of defense, but there is corruption in Ukraine. There is a need and they are working hard at getting rid of the corruption and becoming another great nation that can stand with Europe. They want to be a free and independent Ukraine.

We should be caring for Ukraine. We should do more than just giving them blankets and some food. We should also supply them with the needs to fight a war and to help them become the nation they want to be.

My husband served in the Army for six years and did two tours, one in Iraq and the other in Afghanistan. He put on the uniform and made an oath to this great nation.

When President Trump made that same oath he is supposed to have moral standing while in office — the same moral standing my husband had to uphold while serving overseas. Why is it the President feels he can do as he pleases without consequences?

I am just disgusted at the idea that President Trump won't be impeached. You might call me a "Never Trumper," but I'm not the only one.

Column: Climate change is an issue, education is key

By Emily Niebuhr
Staff Writer

I know there are people out there who are biased about climate change. It's always been here, but the past several years you can tell the environment is changing. I remember back in high school we had several years where it was so hot it was like someone turned the sun on a really high temperature. You just wanted to stay indoors. At that time, I never knew what climate change was. It feels like now we have more wet winters and springs then the summers are mild-dry. Even the humidity is bad all year.

I know several states go through extreme weather every year, but I feel like it's coming early for some of them like snow, flooding, wildfires and more. It also seems like the weather patterns are changing, too. Watching the news, you can see what's happening to the climate and the aftermath of it.

According to worldwildlife.org, the sea levels are rising, and the oceans temperatures are getting warmer. Droughts are hurting the crops that farmers have. People in the United States in cities and towns are facing heat waves, wildfires, coastal storms and flooding.

Did you know 10% of the land region on the Earth is mainly glacial ice with almost 90% in Antarctica, and the other 10% Greenland ice cap? We need to know these things because fast glacial ice melting in both Antarctica and Greenland also controls the ocean currents. Since more cold glacial water is entering our warm oceans this is decreasing ocean currents. When the glacial ice melts, the rise of sea levels will go up.

I also learned from worldwildlife.org that 95% of the sea ice that the oldest and thickest ice in the Arctic is already gone. If you see the Netflix series "Our Planet" it tackles climate change and how it affects the animals. When the glacial ice sheets melt then the penguins, seals, walruses and polar bears lose their protection against predators. It will be harder for the animals to find food and a safe place to live.

I also learned another threat of climate change is when greenhouse gases releasing burning fossil fuels causes temperature in the Arctic to warm, lower level of sea ice, thawing permafrost, and causing sea levels to rise worldwide. The burning of fossil fuels makes the Arctic waters acidic, which hurts zoo plankton species, an Arctic rich food source like corals and shellfish.

You can read more about climate change and what effects it has on our ecosystems at worldwildlife.org. We need to be educated about this stuff and find ways we can try help our planet.

View thedrumbeat.com for more news.

DrumBeat staff members give farewell

Editors reflect on their experiences at Tyler Junior College, offer advice

By Viviana Faz
Social Media Editor

I quit! No, seriously I will be graduating this semester and will be transferring to Texas State University to study public relations.

Here in The DrumBeat I first started as someone who loved to take photos and wanted to get my photos out for people to see. At the end of last year, I applied to be the social media editor. This experience has really helped me learn how to interact with people on a different level. I have livestreamed the Student Senate meetings and posted cool events happening on campus. With The DrumBeat, I have been able to go to the Texas Community College Journalism Association conference, which opened my eyes on what media really is. With TCCJA, I was in the multimedia group where I got to be in a news atmosphere that will help me when I go to work in the future.

TJC student media has shown me what I can do in the future with media. Also, it feels like it has given me the opportunity to set me up to be on the same level when I transfer as a student in student media. The DrumBeat also showed me how to turn what I learned in class into something with the paper.

TJC has taught me so much. It has given me the opportunity to meet people from all over. I have been able to go to six different conferences in six different cities. I even got to go to a national conference while being a student at TJC. TJC has given me the opportunity to meet some of my best friends. This school gives me the opportunity to go to school and still get the university feel but without the cost. I feel my year at TJC didn't put me back.

When I first came on a tour, I learned about the Residence Hall Association. TJC has shown me the love for working in RHA. I also feel that it was cool that TJC was the only junior college working with The Southwest Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (SWACURH). At TJC, I served as RHA president. Later I got the opportunity to run for the SWACURH coordinating officer for marketing and technology where I serve today.

TJC has given me a great stepping stone for the future. I would like to thank all of my professors for showing me that I can do more and that it might be hard but if you want something you got to work hard and study. Thank you to everyone who has impacted my life while at TJC.

By Robert Naylor
Editor-in-Chief

My experience at TJC can be simplified to one word: different. I came here not in pursuit of a degree, but an opportunity to find employment in the news world. After coming here in spring 2018, I accomplished it.

While I certainly hadn't expected a job as quickly as I got it, I had created a contingency plan to be The Drumbeat's editor-in-chief. This would become the most interesting few months in my young adult life.

While I had already challenged myself in participation for football and academics at Bucknell University, now I had to balance school work, a high-ranking news position at TJC, as well as start my career at CBS19.

This period in my life has been the busiest by far. I haven't had a day off since the beginning of the semester, as my weekends are occupied with creating the weekend night show at KYTX. My "work weekends" start on Monday and Tuesday, which is when I prioritize my efforts for student media at TJC.

The challenge was to keep going, keep pursuing stories, keep filling hours at work, and many asked me how or why? The answer is quite simple. This is my dream.

I graduated Bucknell University without lining up an employment opportunity, and eventually broke down to performing temp work. While the pay ended up being decent, I found no passion in this work. I was abandoning my dream all so I could pay off my student loans. Once I finished paying off the loans, I quit for the first time in my life.

That was when my TJC journey started. That is how I find myself here today writing this. You cannot give up on your dreams. If you fail your dreams they will come back to haunt you. To the person reading this, know this one thing: You decide your fate, you are here now to bring yourself to a position where that fate can be accomplished. Cherish these moments and do not take them for granted. Get involved. School alone cannot guarantee that your dream will be accomplished. Take the opportunities in front of you now, so that once you get to my age, you won't have to take a gamble at seeing your dreams come true.

My future is uncertain. I love my job, but I don't like being complacent. I want to keep pushing higher up my career ladder, and this is what awaits me following the semester.

By Adam Palacios
Copy Editor

As graduation approaches, I have come to realize my time here at Tyler Junior College will soon end.

When I started college, I was timid and lacked a sense of what I truly wanted to do with my life. The faculty here at TJC helped build me up and guided me through to the finish line. With the help of professor Rachel Jennische, I am graduating from TJC and Texas A&M Commerce this semester.

I was able to obtain my bachelor's degree in a year and a half and will be heading to graduate school next semester. The courseload along with working full-time was tough, but I don't regret taking on the challenge. I plan to continue my educational journey and obtain my Master of Fine Arts in film production. My ultimate goal is to teach film production and screenwriting at the university level while also producing my own movies. TJC set me on a path to success, and I will forever be grateful.

"Those who say it can't be done are usually interrupted by others doing it,"- James Baldwin.

DB

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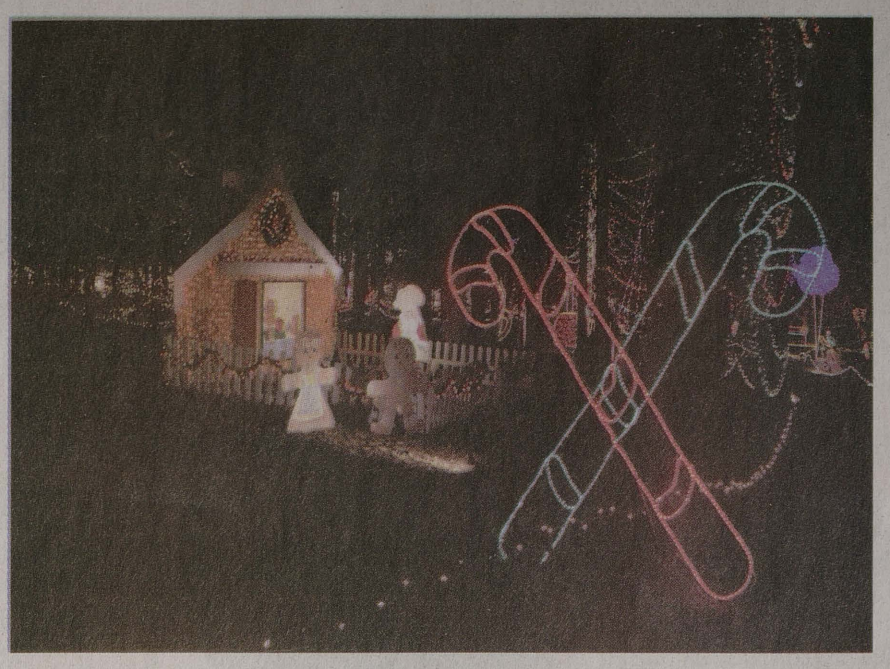

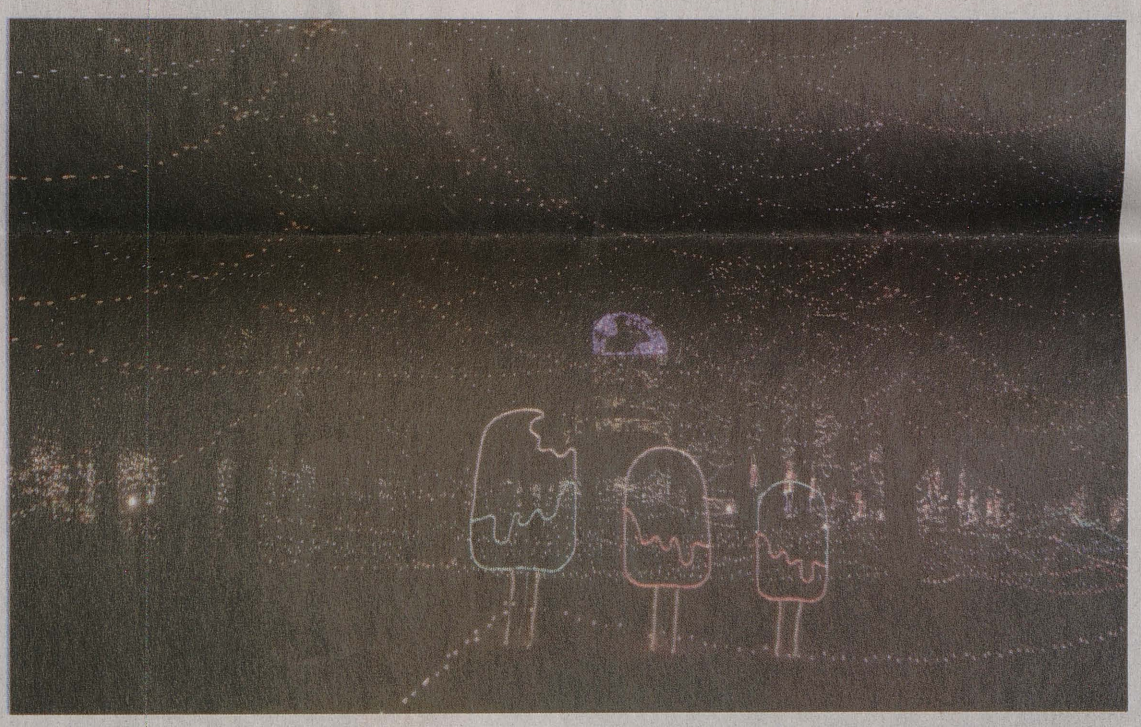

Review: Santa Land a delight for the holidays

Photos and Story by Cassidy Winborn
Staff Photographer

Santa Land is a great place to visit for the holiday season. With lights and decorations surrounding you at every angle, it a sight to see.

Lining the entrance are trees made of lights flashing and dancing to music. Once you drive past the trees, you are surrounded by light and Christmas decorations.

Driving through there are different sections, not just Christmas with Santa, elves and presents. There was a whole section just related to Texas and one just for Christ.

Santa Land is definitely a fun location to go for everyone no matter their age.

After you go through, don't forget to go check out the gift shop and have a look around.

Santa Land

11455 I-20 West Tyler, TX 75706
Open Nov. 1 - Jan. 4
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$25 per car- Vehicles with more than six passengers are considered commercial vehicles.

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